

SOCL department chair's response to Senate rejection of SOCL201 as an AoI course:

1. SOCL 201 has been in the curriculum as a Gen Ed requirement for decades. We changed it to fit into the Global and Multicultural Perspectives Area of Inquiry for the new curriculum but we have taught literally scores of sections of this course to 1000s of students as "Introduction to Macrosociology". If there is overlap, the new First Year Seminar should be rejected, not a course that has been a staple offering of this department for many years.
2. First Year Seminars are designed to change, to come and go as the curriculum evolves. SOCL 201 is a permanent part of the curriculum -- either as Gen Ed requirement in the past or as an Area of Inquiry course in the future. It makes no sense to displace a permanent course because it overlaps with a temporary one -- if both cannot be offered, the temporary course should be the one to be deleted.
3. On the other hand, I am sure that it is possible to offer both courses. We will gladly work with the designers of the FYSM on globalization to ensure that there is minimal overlap.